REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 25, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Claims 1-5 are submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0087266 A1 to Sugimoto. The rejection is traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claim 1.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-5 depend, recites a method of reminding a user subscribed to a communication network, wherein the method includes the steps of defining a defined reminder profile for a specific terminal and acquiring location information for the specific terminal attached to a communication network. The method also includes the steps of comparing the acquired location information with the defined reminder profile and if the acquired location information matches the defined reminder profile, issuing a trigger signaling to at least one user. The method further includes the step of outputting a reminder notification to the at least one user at a respective user terminal. The trigger signaling is transmitted via signaling channels. The trigger signaling is a request for notification which is coded by a number of bits so that a plurality of notifications for a corresponding number of a plurality of events can be distinguished.

As outlined below, Applicant submits that the cited reference of Sugimoto does not teach or suggest the elements of claims 1-5.

Sugomoto teaches a information notification system that includes a portable terminal that is carried by a user, a server which can transmit and receive information to and from the portable terminal via a communication network, an information database from and on which the server can read and write various kinds of information and a position detecting device which can detect a current position of the portable terminal. The user inputs user profile information and notification time of service information into the portable terminal. The portable terminal may be provided with a position detecting device which detects a current position of the user or detects positional information on a communication base station nearest to the portable terminal. The server includes a recording device which records service information on shops or the like associated positional information and profile information of the user. The server also includes a retrieving device which retrieves and selects the service information recorded in the recording device for notifying the user. The server also may include a position detecting device or an input device through which an owner of a shop inputs service information to be notified to the user. In this way the shop information obtained for each shop can be recorded in the information database associated with a profile for retrieval and the positional information of the user. By registering each user in the server, the information notification system can select information matching a user's wish from the database and transmit the information to the portable terminal for notifying the user. Thus, the information delivered is based on a user's settings, such as the user profile, time and position. Paragraph 0037-0043.

Applicant submits that Sugimoto simply does not teach or suggest each element recited in claims 1-5. Claim 1, in part, recites comparing the acquired location information with the defined reminder profile and if the acquired location information matches the defined reminder profile, issuing a trigger signaling to at least one user, and outputting a reminder notification to said at least one user at a respective user terminal, wherein the trigger signaling is transmitted via signaling channels and wherein the trigger signaling is a request for notification which is coded by a number of bit so that a plurality of notifications for a corresponding number of a plurality of events can be distinguished. Applicant submits that Sugimoto simply does not teach or suggest issuing a trigger signaling to at least one user, wherein the trigger signaling is transmitted via signaling channels and wherein the trigger signaling is a request for notification which is coded by a number of bit so that a plurality of notifications for a corresponding number of a plurality of events can be distinguished, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Sugimoto teaches that once the position/time/user profile conditions are met, corresponding information is retrieved from an information database associated with a server and the retrieved information is delivered via a radio interface, for example, to the portable terminal. At least lines 9-10 of the Abstract of Sugimoto disclose that the information is delivered by a "push type information notification system." Figure 5 of Sugimoto illustrates the information retrieved and transmitted by the server. Specifically, Figure 5 illustrates that the server creates a page from the retrieval result and thereafter transmits the page, including the content to be displayed, to the portable terminal for display. As noted above paragraph 43 of Sugimoto discloses that the information is transmitted to the portable terminal for notifying the user. One drawback of the arrangement disclosed in Sugimoto is the high amount of data delivered over the wireless interface. In the present invention as recited in claim 1, on the other hand, a trigger signal is issued to at least one user and based on the trigger signal a notification is output to the user at a respective user terminal. Claim 1 further recites that the trigger signal is transmitted via a signaling channel and not via a traffic channel which is used for delivering push type information, as disclosed in Sugimoto. Claim 1 also recites that the trigger signaling is a request for notification which is coded by a number of bit so that a plurality of notifications for a corresponding number of a plurality of events can be distinguished.

In the Response to Arguments Section, the Office Action asserts that the claims do not claim any specific data, type of trigger or type of channel used for the transmission. Applicant submits that the presently pending claims recite that the channel used for transmission is a signaling channel. Applicant further submits that it should be apparent to one skilled in the art that mobile communication systems distinguish between traffic channels and signaling channels. As is known to one skilled in the art, a traffic channel is used for delivering payload/user data. A signaling channel, on the other hand, is used to deliver control data and/or signaling data. According to Sugimoto, content, such as payload, is always delivered and this is the content which is delivered in a push type notification. In the present invention, as recited in the claims, a trigger signal is transmitted, wherein the trigger signal is deemed to be a signal which triggers/initiates and/or starts some action. Thus, the trigger signal of the present invention does not carry content information, as disclosed in Sugimoto. The trigger signal of the present invention triggers notification of the information to be notified. Specifically, as recited in claim 1, the trigger signaling is a request for notification which is coded by a number of bits so that a plurality of notifications for a corresponding number of a plurality of events can be distinguished. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) should be withdrawn because Sugimoto fails to teach or suggest each feature of claim 1 and hence, dependent claims 2-5 thereon.

As noted previously, claims 1-5 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art references cited in the Office Action. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-5 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time (1)
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